

Valentine Crawford to George Washington, June 8, 1774, three same date, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM CAPTAIN WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

DEAR SIR/

SPRING GARDIN June ye 8th 1774

I recevd your Letters by Mr: Cristy dated 27th of May and I am Sory to[o] you seem to be in confusion as well as us,¹ as that renders our Case more Deplorable.

Saterday Last we had Six person Killd on Dunkard Creek about ten Mills from the Mouth Cheat river on the west Sid of Monongahalia, and there is three mising, a Sunday a man ho Left a party is suposed to be Killd as he Went of to hunt Som horses and 5 guns was h[e]ard go of, and the horse he rood away returnd to the house where the party was, they Set out in Search of Enemies found the Mans Coat and Saw a Number of Tracks but cold not find the man

Our hole Country is in Forts, what is Left, but the Majr. Part is gon Over the Mountain

With Much a do I have prevaild on about Duzen of Famelys to Joyn me in a Fort Over again my house Which has bin Accomplished with Much Difiquelty and a Considerable Expence to me, and Val Crawford has Built an Other at the Same rate

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It was with great Difiquelty any Cold be prevaild to Stay, Such was the Panick that Sezed the people if Som thing is not Soon don, I am much afraid the hole Country must fall into the hands of the Enemies, the Dolaways² Seem to be on our Sid as yeat, but then on them there is not much Dependence I beleve an Endien War is unavoidable

I have bin on a Scouting party as Low as Grave Creek Since Mr Johnston Went Down to Williamsburg but cold [see] no Sign of any parties but as Soon as I Returnd a party Crossd the river that did that Mischef.

Fort pit is Stockcaded in and they inhabitants of the town is about Picketing the town in, the[y] have about on[e] hundred Men fit for Arms in town and Fort Which I do not think Sufficient to Protect them places

I Shall take the oportunity of the first Scouting party Down the River and Comply with your requist in Regard to the round bottom and send you a plot and an other to Mr Lewis and then I have no dore Will be left Open for Disopintment

As to the Variation of the Compass it has bin taken by Mr Leet and Mr McClain from Mr Dickson and Masons Calculations and they find it to be 4d. 10m. Westerly and there Work I beleve may be Depended on as they are both Able Survayors

I am at a Loss what to Advise you to do or Val Crawford in regard to your People as tims I am Afraid will be very Troublesom I am Afraid Should that be the Case Litle would be don for your Advantigue, in Your Letter to V Crawford you Wrot Som of a Mistake in Laying a new County

I aprehended by Lord Dumore there was a new County intended on the west of the Mountain

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Sir I am your most Huml Sarvent W CRAWFORD NB we are in Great want of Guns and
Amonition

1 It was on the 26th of May that Lord Dunmore dissolved the Virginia Assembly. and on the 27th that they met at the Raleigh tavern.

2 Delawares. The Delawares remained neutral throughout Dunmore's war.